

Homework Hotline. The Team worked with the local telephone company and school officials to establish the Hotline, setting up both a telephone line and an Internet chat room. The members of the Community Problem Solving Team manned the Hotline under the supervision of adult volunteers and the 8th grade members of the Team.

The response to the new Homework Hotline was extremely positive. Students who used the service became more adept at refining their questions and moved away from one-line fact requests to research-based inquiries for additional sources of information that they could access on their own. The Team is now considering continuing the program into next year.

I want to congratulate all the members of the Paintsville Middle School Community Future Problem Solving Team: Catlin Boswell, Zachary Boswell, Ashley Boswell, Katie Brown, Hayley Castle, Elizabeth Combs, John Compton, Sashi Param, Mallore Collins, Katie Gilkerson, and John Petot. They have spent countless hours working on the Homework Hotline project, and their dedication to their community and fellow students should serve as an inspiration to us all. I also want to commend the Team's Coach, Brenda Porter, and the Team's advisors: Teresa Boswell, Larry Compton, Teresa Petot, and South Central Bell. Their support and guidance has been invaluable in spurring the success of the Community Future Problem Solving Team.

Mr. Speaker, the activities of the Problem Solvers are important, and we should support their efforts. Today's problem solvers are tomorrow's problem solvers and community leaders. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Paintsville Middle School Community Problem Solving Team on a job well done, and to wish them the best of luck as they compete in Ann Arbor, Michigan, next week.

#### TRIBUTE TO GARRY FREID

##### HON. JIM DAVIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. DAVIS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Garry Freid, a constituent of mine in Tampa who will celebrate his eightieth birthday on Monday, June 8th.

Mr. Freid has contributed tirelessly and selflessly to his country, state, community, and family. His patriotism and citizenship continue to shape the face of our nation and are held out as examples to all Americans. As a soldier, businessman, and father, he helped mark many milestones in the history of the United States. So now, it is with great respect and thanks that Congress and I acknowledge his personal milestone today.

As a child of immigrant parents, Mr. Freid and his family represent the earnest fabric of our country. He endured the Great Depression and World War II; his service record is a source of great pride to his family. With his wife Hannah, he prospered, raised four children, supported public education, became a part of the workforce, and helped grow the city of Tampa. Therefore, with thanks and reverence, we mark his personal triumph by saying congratulations.

HONORING MR. CHESTER J. MACKOWIECKI OF AUBURN, MA, ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

##### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged today to have the opportunity to acknowledge and honor my constituent, Mr. Chester J. Mackowiecki, on the occasion of his retirement from the field of education. Mr. Mackowiecki, resident of Auburn, Massachusetts, has been an educator, administrator, and leader in education in the over 30 years that culminate his career in education. His dedication to improving children's lives through education is evident by his past involvement in and progression through the school system in Webster, Massachusetts.

Mr. Mackowiecki began his career in 1959 as a fifth grade teacher at the School Street School. He then moved to the Webster Intermediate School in 1961 where he served as a fifth grade teacher until he was appointed Assistant Principal. Shortly thereafter, Mr. Mackowiecki served as Principal of the Intermediate Annex and Filmer School until he was appointed to his present position of Principal of the Park Avenue Elementary School. He has served as a leader and mentor to all those students and teachers that have had the opportunity to learn and flourish under his administration at Park Avenue Elementary over an astounding 28 year period!

Mr. Mackowiecki's 39 year commitment to education and to providing quality education to the children of Webster is a most admirable achievement that should serve as an inspiration to all who enter the field of education. The loyalty and pride that is felt toward him by his colleagues and all teachers who have served under his leadership is indicative of the positive atmosphere for learning that Mr. Mackowiecki fostered within the classrooms of the Park Avenue Elementary School. Mr. Mackowiecki will be greatly missed by all those who he has touched and influenced, both young and old. I wish him many years of health, happiness, and peace during his retirement and am assured that the legacy he has left in Webster Education will not be forgotten.

#### CONGRATULATING KITTATINNY REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

##### HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Kittatinny Regional High School on receiving the U.S. Department of Education's prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools Award.

This award recognizes that Kittatinny Regional High School is one of the finest schools in our entire nation. This proves that public education works and that our young people in Sussex County are among the best and brightest. This accomplishment is the result of hard work on the part of students, their parents, teachers and the Board of Education. Special congratulations go to Principal Susan

Kappler, Superintendent of Schools Robert Walker and English teacher Carol Fishbone, who helped Mrs. Kappler shepherd the Blue Ribbon application. As a former teacher and school board member, I am proud of everyone associated with this accomplishment.

Of the thousands of middle schools and high schools across the United States, only 166 this year were found to be outstanding enough to receive this high honor. Recipients of the Blue Ribbon Schools Award have been judged particularly effective at meeting local, state and national goals. The award is presented to schools that have shown strong leadership, a clear vision and sense of mission, high quality teaching, challenging curriculum, a safe environment for learning, solid evidence of family involvement, evidence that the school helps all students achieve high standards, and a commitment to share best practices with other schools. These schools clearly display the quality of excellence necessary to prepare our young people for the challenges of the next century.

Kittatinny Regional High School is located on 95 acres in Hampton Township and offers its 1,100 seventh-through-twelfth-grade students a modern physical plant designed for learning. It includes more than 50 classrooms, nine science labs, six computer labs, a media center, two gymnasiums, cafeteria, main office, superintendent's office, a pool and eight athletic fields. A computer network has been installed throughout the building. Each classroom has a telephone, at least one computer and a video connection. The computer labs offer facilities ranging from word processing to presentation software.

An outstanding physical plant is, of course, worthless without an excellent teaching staff and Kittatinny's teachers have been recognized as some of the best in New Jersey. Special education teacher Lynn Bishop and speech coordinator Marie Decker this year jointly received the state Department of Education's Best Practice Award. Social studies teacher Ellen Kolonoski received a grant from the National Geographic Society Education Foundation and sociology teacher Pamela Bilby was chosen to participate in the Belfer National Conference for Education held by the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. English teacher Mary Jane Westra was the 1997 Kittatinny Teacher of the Year and received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Newton Rotary. Computer assisted drafting teacher Bill Meyer was the 1997 New Jersey Technology Teacher of the Year and received the 1996 Distinguished Alumni Award from the College of New Jersey. These are just a few of Kittatinny's award-winning teachers and I offer my apologies to those I've left out.

The school offers a wide variety of courses in English, mathematics, science, social studies, history, foreign languages, fine arts, technology, creative arts, health, physical education and business. Many of the courses are given credit by Sussex County Community College. A strong emphasis is placed on honors courses and advanced placement courses. A successful school-to-career program helps prepare non-college-bound students for direct entry into the workforce.

The excellence of Kittatinny's academic program has been repeatedly recognized. Last year, it was selected as one of 10 "Star Schools" in New Jersey. It has received several "Best Practices" awards in New Jersey.

Mock trial and other academic teams have earned state championship titles and athletic teams have produced championship titles at county, regional and state levels.

Management style at Kittatinny emphasizes collaborative decision-making, site-based management and teacher/staff empowerment. Committees deal with current and future needs of the school and allow the faculty to have a voice in changes in policy.

Kittatinny students are well prepared by their teachers, parents and role models in the community. They can rest assured they will be able to handle whatever challenges they choose in life. Once again, congratulations to everyone involved in this impressive achievement.

#### COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY

##### HON. PAUL McHALE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. McHALE. Mr. Speaker, in this season of graduation throughout the country, today I would like to highlight the achievements of a very special group of students. Four years ago, Communities In Schools of the Lehigh Valley created a new "Academy" within William Allen High School in Allentown, PA, in my district. Young people who were at risk of dropping out of school were identified and asked to participate in this new program. With the support of the Allentown School District, an innovative curriculum was created and instituted by two teachers: James R. Gollatz and Darryl Skrovanek. Mr. Gollatz was recently honored as a "Teacher of the Year" at the high school. Mr. Skrovanek has taken a leadership role as President of the Allentown Education Association.

The students recruited into the program found a safe place where they could successfully learn and prepare for life. When additional services were needed to help, Communities In Schools forged partnerships with scores of other organizations to meet these needs. These students found the resources within themselves, in the school, and in the community to meet their challenge. They stayed in school.

Next week, on June 10th, 1998, this group of young adults will accomplish something perhaps they and others doubted they could do: they will graduate with a diploma from William Allen High School. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of: Albert Albino, Saywood Cross, Brent Davis, Theresa Duch, Lazarus Figuerue, Jeffrey Freer, Zila Gonzalez, Shane Heiser, Stephen Hertzog, Melissa Koehler, Peter Macias, Mathew Reese, Shuree Riddick, Jennifer Seltzer, Jessica Snyder, and Lindsey Wargo.

I know you join me in offering heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for all their future endeavors.

#### HONORING ALEX KIRPNICK

##### HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Border Patrol Agent Alex Kirpnick, who was shot and killed last night in Nogales, Arizona. Alex and his partner came upon five drug smugglers crossing just west of Nogales and in the course of doing his job, Alex was killed.

Alex Kirpnick immigrated to the United States from Russia 10 years ago. He had been with the Border Patrol for 20 months and was a highly skilled agent who spoke eight languages. I know from speaking to Alex's colleagues that Alex was a man of great character and he will be missed.

Alex was well-liked and respected by all those he worked with. Alex is survived by his parents, Boris and Eta Kirpnick, and a sister, Zhanna, who live in California. I have never felt the pain of losing a child, but during my tenure as Border Patrol Chief in Texas, I lost many good officers. I would like to extend my condolences to Alex's family and to his colleagues in Nogales who have lost a dear friend and a good agent.

As a former border patrol chief, I know the sacrifices made by the men and women on our border, protecting our communities. I ask all of my colleagues to remember Alex and the often thankless job he performed each and every day. Alex faithfully served our nation and protected our communities while serving on our nation's border and we owe Alex a great debt of gratitude for his service and commitment.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NEW JERSEY SOCIETY OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants in commemoration of their 100th anniversary. I am honored to recognize this outstanding association for all that they have done for the state of New Jersey and its citizens. Each year, many New Jersey residents turn to these professionals to help sort through the countless number of forms and regulations that the Internal Revenue Service puts out. It is often our CPA that we can thank for keeping our family or business in compliance with the laws.

The New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants was founded on January 19, 1898 in Newark, New Jersey and has served the community ever since. They have experienced significant growth and change in their century of existence. Similarly, they have also sparked much growth and prosperity in partnership with New Jersey businesses and citizens.

The organization has encouraged modifications in the tax rate, has supported state tort reform, and was instrumental in the creation of

the State's Taxpayer Bill of Rights. It is for this that I pay tribute to this organization on this special anniversary. Their record of service to the people of New Jersey has been meritorious and for this I commend them.

I want to congratulate all of the members of the society and thank them for all of their years of dedication and service. It is a pleasure to have many of the members as my constituents and I wish every one of them future success.

#### HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 286—UNDERSTANDING THE LINK BETWEEN ANIMAL ABUSE AND HUMAN VIOLENCE

##### HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 1998*

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the strong link between violence against animals and violence against people, and to call to the attention of my colleagues House Concurrent Resolution 286 which urges greater attention to identifying and treating individuals who are guilty of violence against animals because of the link between abuse of animals and violence against humans. The resolution also calls for additional research to increase our understanding of the connection between cruelty to animals and violence against humans.

After the recent school shootings in Arkansas and Oregon, heavy attention has been paid to the early signs of the potential for children to commit violent crime. It is no coincidence that the accused in these two tragic cases are juveniles with disturbing histories of animal cruelty and abuse. Mr. Speaker, it is common sense knowledge that any individual who harms animals cruelly and deliberately is not otherwise well adjusted.

Mr. Speaker, the FBI already lists violence against animals as a behavioral trait and characteristic of violent offenders. Almost all serial killers are known to have abused animals. Indeed, cruelty toward animals is often a sign of mental disturbance in both children and adults.

Teachers, principals, parents, and law enforcement officers must all be encouraged to recognize this connection and to take incidences of animal cruelty seriously. An abused animal is often a sign that a spouse, a child, or an elder in the household is or may become the victim of aggression and abuse. A pet may be a surrogate target of violence. Abuse of a household pet often fuels violent tendencies that are a precursor to acts of violence against family members and others.

Violence against animals co-exists with and precedes violent crimes, especially crimes of domestic violence. The Federal Government must not overlook this correlation. By studying this link, we can increase awareness and understanding of violent crime and the potential violent crimes in our homes, in our schools, and in our communities.

Furthermore, we must reject the notion that violence against animals is simply normal societal behavior. If we treat cruelty to animals with a dismissive "boys will be boys," we may well be ignoring critical initial signs that may lead to violent behavior and we may be passing up an opportunity to take action to prevent